

Lakeshore 40th Anniversary Talking Points

Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore celebrates the Lakeshore's 40th Anniversary in 2006. On October 15, 1966, Congress created this, the first national lakeshore. Anniversary events include public programs and several new efforts to further the lakeshore's positive relationship with gateway communities and local citizens. Let this year's celebration remind us of how fortunate we are to have a national park area in our own back yard. Anniversary programs include:

- Several activities surrounding the 4th of July, including a **former employees reunion picnic**, and a **float in the Munising and Grand Marais parades**.
- A series of **Fireside Chats** at Munising Falls, monthly through May.
- After school **Junior Ranger** programs.
- **Summer interpretive campfire programs** within the Lakeshore.
- **UPTRA poster** commemorating the Lakeshore's 40th anniversary.
- **40th anniversary passport stamps** at Lakeshore visitor centers.
- The NPS **Experience Your America exhibit** at Alger County Heritage Center - summer.
- **Artist in Residence displays** in Munising and Grand Marais banks - summer.
- Periodic transportation via **ALTRAN to Au Sable Light Station** (two days each in July and August).
- **Au Sable Day** celebration with Carl Behrend, Saturday September 30.
- Lakeshore interpreter aboard **Pictured Rocks Cruises**, one day per week this summer. (tentative)
- New improved **Lakeshore website**.
- **TV-6 Lakeshore trivia** questions with Karl Bohnak.
- An **October 14th community/park birthday party** including dignitaries from the Washington office of the National Park Service and local government.

Additional new initiatives include the:

- **Community Partner Program**, which will further strengthen communications and relationships with local business interests to ensure that visitors to our area have easy access to accurate and up-to-date information about the park. (March)
- **Adopt-a-Trail** and **Adopt-a-Campsite Program** will solicit the support of local citizens who love to hike in the park to serve as volunteer citizen stewards of short sections of trail and/or backcountry campsites to assist the park's paid staff in keeping these facilities in good condition for all to enjoy. (Spring)
- **Experience Your Lakeshore Program**. The park will invite local civic leaders and citizens to spend time in the park with park staff, as part of a structured program, to learn more about the park and park-related issues. This program will give us a great opportunity to learn from our neighbors and to hear about their concerns as well. If successful, we hope to make this an annual program. (Fall)
- While not directly related to the park's 40th anniversary, local communities should also be aware of the recent establishment of the **National Parks of Lake Superior Fund**. This new organization, associated with the National Park Foundation, has been formed to help support the four U.S. national park units on Lake Superior: Isle Royale National Park, Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, and Grand Portage National Monument. This organization will be conducting a variety of fund raising activities to help us protect park resources and improve visitor services at these four parks. We are very grateful for their support and energy for our parks.

We are very proud to be a part of such a beautiful and interesting area and hope that local citizens will join with us in celebrating and supporting the park during this very special year.

For more information about any of these programs, please contact Brenda or Gregg at National Lakeshore Headquarters at 906-387-2607. Later this winter, information will be posted on the park's website at www.nps.gov/piro.